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Hasta la Vista

Army to implement new operating system

By DELAWESE FULTON
Leader Staff

The Army is migrating all of its Microsoft Windows-based systems to Microsoft's Vista operating system to bolster Internet security and begin standardization of its information systems.

The systems change, which includes swapping Office 2003 for Office 2007, is set to be completed by Dec. 31. Fort Jackson's Directorate of Information Management officials say the initiative will strengthen Army LandWarNet security by reducing opportunities for hackers to access and exploit gov-

ernment computer systems.

"The goal is to minimize the impact to the installation's training mission. We want to handle this migration in a way that makes sense to the organizations fielded," said Marcus D. Good, chief of the Information Technology Systems Support Division at DOIM.

"As for the impact on Fort Jackson, the DOIM has been working with the installation's IT professionals and Information Management Officers from many different organizations to test Vista in a controlled and limited deployment," Good said.

Prior to bringing the new operating system online, a few glitches were reported,

Good said. However, those issues will not impact mission readiness or delay the planned migration to Windows Vista.

"The Army has been testing Vista since its release and has run it through the Army Golden Master program. The Army Golden Master program is responsible for the release of the Army standard baseline configurations for commonly used computing environments within the Army Enterprise Infrastructure, the team responsible for making sure applications that ran on XP will run on Vista," Good said.

See OPERATING: Page 8

Pvt. Colbert reports for duty



Photo by MIKE A. GLASCH

Political humorist Stephen Colbert, of Comedy Central's *The Colbert Report*, gets chewed out by Sgt. 1st Class Demetrius Chantz, an instructor at the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant School. Colbert was at Fort Jackson Friday to film a segment for his show's upcoming trip to the Persian Gulf. For more on Colbert's visit, see pages 20-21.

Two holiday weekends up ahead

Two important weekends are on deck.

As you probably already know, Fort Jackson once again will be hosting Armed Forces Day this weekend. Although some of the events have changed since previous years, the significance of the event has not been pared, nor has the opportunity for a great time.

Armed Forces Day has become a proud tradition with roots that go back nearly 60 years. In 1950, this day was designated so that Americans could get insight into some of the numerous challenges and missions that our military men and women confront.

The Fort Jackson community is, of course, used to the Army approach. But when one looks at the bigger picture, it becomes clear just how the Navy, Marines, Air Force and Coast Guard, team with us to accomplish the broader and all important mission of protecting our country from outside threats.

Armed Forces Day, in that sense, becomes a truly educational experience. We are planning a number of activities and displays, which are all guaranteed to pique your curiosities as well as to garner the interest of your family.

We will have experts available who possess a wealth

BRIG. GEN. BRADLEY W. MAY

*Fort Jackson
Commanding
General*



of knowledge to share. We embrace this chance to reach out to you and explain to you how various equipment works and facilities operate.

This is a unique and wonderful opportunity. I am confident you will learn things and head back home at day's end with a grasp of how our different branches of service work and interact with one another.

The following weekend is the Memorial Day weekend, which unofficially is the start for summer fun.

Although June 21 is when summer really begins, Memorial Day weekend seems to have us all ready to roll down the tops, break out the barbecues, beach towels,

and throttle up on outdoor activities. I am sure you get the picture.

In wishing you all a happy and safe extended weekend, I hope that you keep in mind the original thought behind the creation of Memorial Day.

The purpose was to set aside a day during which we remember the patriotic dead. And that's something we dare not forget. More than a million of comrades have paid the ultimate sacrifice so that we can live free.

On this Memorial Day, America finds itself still at war. We continue to protect the freedoms that those who have gone before us protected.

It takes courage, sacrifice and selfless service to man the front lines of democracy.

The Fort Jackson family always has its thoughts and its prayers for our deployed Army family members who are in harm's way. Combat operations are never easy.

Yet as American Soldiers, we have taken an oath to defend America against the many dangers that threaten our way of life. Our predecessors did as well, and we need to remember that they were doing what their country expected of them.

Army Strong!

The Fort Jackson **Leader**

Fort Jackson, South Carolina 29207

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GI Bill; officer assignments; AIT platoon sergeant program

Is the post-9/11 Montgomery GI BILL (Chapter 33) transferrable to Soldiers' family members, including spouses and children?

DoD is authorized to allow individuals who, on or after Aug. 1, have served at least six years in the Armed Forces, and who agree to serve an additional four years in the Armed Forces to transfer unused entitlement to their spouses and children.

What is an Officer Assignment Preference Statement?

DA Form 483 (Officer Assignment Preference Statement) allows officers to express their assignment and duty preferences. Assignment managers consider individual preferences each time an officer is reassigned to the Headquarters Department of the Army.

Every effort is made to comply with the officer's preferences while being consistent with the needs of the Army. For more information, refer to AR 614-100, Officer Assignment, Policies, Details and Transfers, Chapter 2.

I am a Human Resources Command directed Advanced Individual Training platoon sergeant. How long

COL. LILLIAN A. DIXON

*Fort Jackson
Garrison
Commander*



will I be stabilized in this position?

Upon successful completion of AIT PSG school, Soldiers will incur a 24-month obligation for AIT PSG duty. Soldiers must take appropriate action to meet the length of service requirement prior to attending school.

GARRISON FACT OF THE WEEK

You are eligible for the new post 9/11 GI Bill even if you have not paid into the previous Montgomery GI Bill. However, your benefits will be determined by the actual amount of accumulated post 9/11 service time.

To submit questions, call 751-2842, or e-mail nahrwolds@conus.army.mil.

HOW TO CONTACT THE LEADER

☐ To submit a story idea or an announcement, or to request coverage of an event, e-mail details to FJLeader@conus.army.mil or call 751-7045.

☐ Article submissions are due two weeks before the scheduled publication. For example, an article for the May 28 Leader should be submitted by today.

☐ Announcements are due one week before the scheduled publication. For example, an announcement for the May 28 Leader should be submitted by May 21.

Installation Planning Board convenes

By **SUSANNE KAPPLER**
Leader Staff

Leaders from several on-post military and civilian organizations met May 7 at the Post Conference Room to constitute Fort Jackson's Installation Planning Board.

The board, which will convene at least twice a year, serves as an information exchange forum between the garrison and the post's tenants.

"I hope this is a useful tool for you," Garrison Commander Col. Lillian Dixon said in her opening remarks, addressing the tenant organization representatives. "I know it is for us."

The IPB also demonstrates how the installation's activities interrelate with Fort Jackson's priorities as outlined in the campaign plan.

"We found a way to tie what we do as a business to the

Campaign Plan," Dixon said.

During the meeting, Lt. Col. Ronald Taylor, provost marshal and director of emergency services, unveiled plans to build automated installation entry systems at Fort Jackson's gates. The new system will allow motorists to swipe their common access cards to gain entry to the installation.

"The actual construction date is still unknown," Taylor said, but added that he hopes the project can be under way by August. "The security at Fort Jackson will be a lot better."

Dave Harmon, Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation director, laid out plans for the construction of two child development centers, which are scheduled to be completed in March. (For more on the CDCs, see page 16.) Harmon also talked about several initiatives to offer more recreational opportunities for visitors on Family

Day. Century Lanes Bowling Center and the Solomon Center are scheduled to be expanded; a large group shelter will be built near Palmetto Falls Water Park; and Family Day bus tours of the installation are currently in a test phase.

"What we're trying to do is to enhance the Family Day experience here on Fort Jackson," Harmon said.

AAFES General Manager Jason Rosenberg talked about a new program, "Cadre Wednesdays," which is scheduled to begin Wednesday.

"It will all be geared toward the permanent party (Soldiers)," Rosenberg said.

Some of the items that IPB attendees determined to need further discussion are the location of a skeet range and the implementation of more cadre-friendly initiatives on Fort Jackson.

Susanne.Kappler1@us.army.mil

Asian Pacific Heritage Month luncheon set

By **DELAWESE FULTON**
Leader Staff

More than 20 Asian Pacific countries will be recognized at Fort Jackson's annual heritage month luncheon May 20.

May is Asian American Heritage month. The contributions of Asian Pacific Americans will be remembered and celebrated with food, entertainment and guest speaker Aumua Amata.

Amata is an American Samoa community activist and member of its Republican National Committee. Amata was reared in a military family. Her father fought in World War II and was inducted in the Army Infantry's Hall of Fame at Fort Benning.

She has three brothers who are Army veterans, another brother who is a Navy veteran and her grandfather also served in the Navy.

Sgt. 1st Class James Tucker, an equal opportunity adviser with the U.S. Army Chaplain Center and School, is helping coordinate this year's event. Tucker said Amata and her family are among the many Asian Americans who serve and promote the community. From Soldiers to doctors to athletes to engineers —

they, too, have had a hand in building our nation.

"I think for the military and even for civilians (this luncheon) recognizes the contributions that the Asian Pacific Americans have made in our military and society as a whole," Tucker said.

Taiwanese, Hawaiian, Korean, Chinese and Japanese are among the groups to be celebrated at the luncheon, which is open to the public. Filipino and American Samoa associations, based in Columbia, will also participate in the event.

Last year, about 210 people attended the Asian Pacific American Heritage luncheon. Organizers expect about 250 this year.

Delawese.Fulton@us.army.mil

The Asian Pacific Heritage Month luncheon is scheduled for May 20 at the NCO Club, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Tickets, priced at \$9.25 each, are available at the Equal Employment Opportunity Office, located in the Strom Thurmond Building. For more information, call 751-7248.

Greek delegation visits

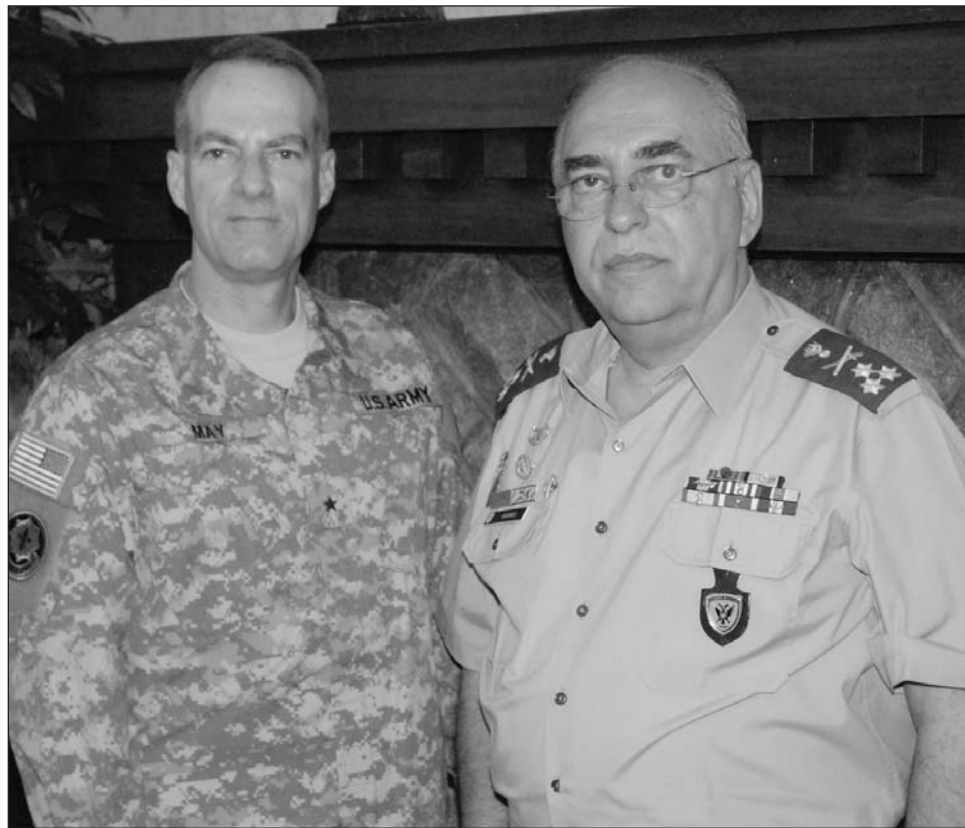


Photo by MIKE A. GLASCH

Brig. Gen. Bradley May, Fort Jackson commanding general, meets with Greek Army Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Dimitrios Voulgaris Tuesday at the Officers' Club. Voulgaris and members of his staff were touring Basic Combat Training operations.

Army calls on drivers to share the road

U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center

FORT RUCKER, Ala. — The U.S. Army Combat Readiness/Safety Center has joined the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and other state and national organizations in May to remind motorists and motorcyclists to be extra alert during Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month.

Across the nation, motorcycle fatalities have steadily increased over the past decade. In fiscal year 2008, the Army lost more Soldiers in motorcycle accidents than any other previous year going back to 1986. Since the beginning of fiscal year 2009, there have been 13 motorcycle-related Soldier fatalities and peak riding season is still a few weeks away.

“May is really the beginning of the traditional riding season because, with the weather improving, more and more motorcyclists are hitting the roads,” said Walter Beckman, Safety Center driving task force program manager. “With that in mind, drivers of all vehicles need to be extra attentive and make sure they are sharing the road.”

Beckman said motorists and motorcyclists alike have many responsibilities out on the road like making sure they follow the rules, remaining visible to all drivers and never driving while impaired. Motorcyclists’ responsibilities also include always wearing a DOT-compliant helmet and other protective gear.

“Motorcyclists are much more vulnerable than passenger vehicle occupants in the event of a crash,” Beckman



said. “Research shows that motorcyclists are about 37 times more likely than a passenger car occupant to die in a traffic crash so remember to slow down and ride within your capability.”

As the Army heads into June, last year’s deadliest month for Soldier motorcycle riders, NHTSA recommends several tips for drivers to help keep motorcyclists safe on the roads:

— Remember the motorcycle is a vehicle with all of the rights and privileges of any other motor vehicle on the roadway. Always allow a motorcyclist the full lane width—never try to share a lane.

— Always make a visual check for motorcycles by checking mirrors and blind spots before entering or leaving a lane of traffic and at intersections.

— Always signal your intentions before changing lanes or merging with traffic.

— Don’t be fooled by a flashing turn signal on a motorcycle—motorcycle signals are often not self-canceling and riders sometimes forget to turn them off. Wait to be sure the motorcycle is going to turn before you proceed;

— Allow more following distance, three or four seconds, when behind a motorcycle, so the motorcyclist has enough time to maneuver or stop in an emergency. And don’t tailgate. In dry conditions, motorcycles can stop quicker than cars.

Beckman said motorcyclists can increase their safety by:

— Wearing protective clothing including long-sleeved shirt or jacket, long trousers, full-fingered gloves or mittens made from leather or other abrasion-resistant material, motorcycle jackets and pants constructed of abrasion-resistant materials and a DOT-approved helmet.

— Combining hand and turn signals to draw more attention to themselves.

— Positioning themselves in the lane where they will be most visible to other drivers.

— Not drinking and riding.

“By encouraging safe riding and cooperation between all motorists and motorcyclists, we can reduce the number of fatalities and injuries on our nation’s highways,” Beckman said. “All drivers need to slow down — life is too short not to take the time enjoy it. Enjoy this riding season and live to ride for the next one.”

To learn more about motorcycle safety awareness, visit <https://safety.army.mil>.

Thanks for the support



Photo by SUSANNE KAPPLER

Shannon Grover selects a rose during the Army Community Services’ Military Spouse Appreciation Day event Friday at the Strom Thurmond Building. In addition to the rose, spouses received free food and an ACS gift bag as a token of appreciation for their service.

Let the games begin



Courtesy photo

Capt. Terry Thompson, 171st Infantry Brigade, shoots pool in the newly renovated Single Soldier Complex game room. Thompson was among the many Soldiers who attended the game room open house May 5, which showed off its many amenities, including two pool tables, foosball table, dart board and flat screen televisions.

Retreat offers relaxation for Wounded Warriors

By **DEBORAH HAUCK**

Soldier Family Assistance Center

The South Carolina National Guard, the Soldier Family Assistance Center and the American Red Cross are teaming up to provide our nations' heroes and their family members with a weekend of relaxation and enjoyable activities.

This Wounded Warrior Retreat, which is scheduled for Aug. 14 at Bethel Woods Lake Lodges and Campgrounds, is designed to promote healing, foster family cohesion and play a part of the recovery process.

"This retreat is a tribute to the sacrifices that our Soldiers and their family members have endured through the hardship of combat; and we endeavor that this retreat will be refreshing and renewing both personally and professionally," said Col. Clarence Browser, director of Family Programs, South Carolina National Guard.

Organizers hope Bethel Woods' tranquil surroundings will serve as a haven for the Wounded Warriors and their family members. The weekend promises to be relaxing and filled with fun activities for the entire family. Participants

will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of activities, including canoeing, swimming, rock walk climbing and fishing.

"Bethel Woods is honored and proud to host such an event for these special families and to provide them with an opportunity to benefit from our recreational and relaxing facilities," said Keith Newman, Bethel Woods executive director.

Jesse Deberry, SFAC director, said he hopes the retreat will be a nice break for the Wounded Warriors.

"I am excited for the Wounded Warriors and their family members who have this opportunity to remove themselves from their day-to-day rituals and have a break where they can enjoy the serenity that this retreat will provide," he said.

For more information, call Sherry Marsh at 806-1641 or visit www.guardfamily.org. The deadline for registration is July 10.

Mayfield recalls vanilla ice cream

Special to the Leader

Mayfield Dairy Farms issued a voluntary recall of Mayfield Homemade Vanilla Select Ice Cream. The recall affects 1.5 quart containers with a code date of 03/17/10 and a Universal Product Code Number of 75243 20148.

Consumers should look for code date information on the rim of the lid. The UPC number is located on the end of the package.

The recall was initiated because the product may have been contaminated with ammonia, which may cause headache, nausea, vomiting and irritation of the throat.

No other code dates or Mayfield Dairy Farms products are involved in this recall.

The affected product was distributed through retail outlets in numerous states, including South Carolina.

For more information, visit www.mayfelddairy.com.

AFCC tour



Photo by DELAWESE FULTON

Air Force Chaplain (Maj. Gen.) Cecil Richardson, Air Force chief of chaplains, talks with Stuart Robinette, construction quality control manager, during a tour of the construction site of the Armed Forces Chaplaincy Center yesterday.

Perfect aim



Photo by MIKE A. GLASCH

Pvt. Nicholas Provost, left, and Pvt. Shawn Smith, both with Company F, 1st Battalion, 13th Infantry Regiment, shot a perfect 40 out of 40 during their Basic Rifle Marksmanship qualification. The achievement earned the Soldiers the prestigious "Hawkeye" title.

Operating system to be updated by end of year

Continued from Page 1

“As with the implementation of any new technology, there will be challenges to overcome — not to mention this will be a change for users who have gotten comfortable with Windows XP and Office 2003. The new look and feel will take some time to adjust to,” he said.

In addition to added supports for data encryption, first-time Vista users will discover a new Windows Explorer, upgraded icons and navigation structure. There are also graphical replications of clock, calendar, weather and Outlook mail functions.

The Soldier Support Institute staff and its 3,500 computers were first to migrate to the new operating system.

Sharon Reed, chief of IT at SSI, said the division is providing several resources to facilitate the transition for its employees and customers.

“During this process, we are offering several in-house training sessions, helpful quick-tip handouts and free Army online training,” Reed said.

Reed added that because several of the division’s employees already use Vista and

Office 2007 at their homes, it has shortened the learning curve for SSI overall.

The 171st Infantry Brigade started the Vista system this week, said Lashanda Howard, DOIM Vista migration project leader.

Howard said the roll-out is well planned and strategic. Classroom computers, day-room and kiosk computers, new computers (such as life cycle replacement computers) and computers with minimal impact to mission readiness will be part of the initial implementation.

“The Army’s mandate is to have 50 percent of all Windows-based systems migrated to Vista by July 31 and 100 percent by the end of the year,” Good said.

As of press time yesterday, more than 900 of the installation’s 7,500 computers have migrated to the new operating system, Good said.

Fort Jackson employees who have never used the operating system, can preview it and begin training by visiting <http://us-army.skillport.com> and <https://train.gordon.army.mil/>.

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4-10 family fun



Courtesy photo

Soldiers and family members of the 4th Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment celebrated the unit’s third annual Family Fun Day at Twin Lakes recently. Among the attractions were face painting, rock climbing and numerous display booths.



DSoY credits family for success

Rank, name
Sgt. 1st Class Michael Cavezza

Unit
Company A, 1-13th Infantry Regiment

Military Occupational Specialty / Job title
63X, Light Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic/drill sergeant

Years in service
Eight years

Marital status
Married, one son

Highest education
Some college

Hobbies
Playing softball, working out and riding my bike.



Photo by DELAWESE FULTON

Sgt. 1st Class Michael Cavezza was recently selected to be Fort Jackson's Drill Sergeant of the Year.

During the past eight years — especially when Sgt. 1st Class Michael Cavezza deployed to Afghanistan in 2007 his family has kept him motivated. In addition to his deployment, he has been stationed at Camp Humphreys, Korea, and Fort Bragg, N.C. “My biggest influence has been my parents, my grandfather and my son. That is what gives me motivation every day. I dedicate everything I’ve done thus far to

NCO spotlight

them. I thank them for their love and support in everything I do,” said Cavezza, who won this year’s Drill Sergeant of the Year competition. Cavezza said he also has sights on winning “the 2009 TRADOC DSOY Competition, and to make the next master sergeant list and, of course, be a first ser-

geant in the 82nd Airborne Division.” His advice to junior enlisted Soldiers is to “use the bad and good leadership around you to develop your own leadership style now. You don’t have to be a sergeant to take initiative and lead. “There are NCO’s and sergeants all around you, but for some reason, good leadership is hard to find. Decide now what kind of leader do you want to be.” We salute you!

The NCO Creed

No one is more professional than I. I am a non-commissioned officer, a leader of Soldiers. As a noncommissioned officer, I realize that I am a member of a time-honored corps, which is known as “the backbone of the Army.” I am proud of the Corps of Noncommissioned Officers and will at all times conduct myself so as to bring credit upon the corps, the military service and my country regardless of the situation in which I find myself. I will not use my grade or position to attain pleasure, profit, or personal safety.

Competence is my watchword. My two basic responsibilities will always be uppermost in my mind — accomplishment of my mission and the welfare of my Soldiers. I will strive to remain technically and tactically proficient. I am aware of my role as a noncommissioned officer. I will fulfill my responsibilities inherent in that role. All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership; I will provide that leadership. I know my Soldiers and I will always place their needs above my own.

I will communicate consistently with my Soldiers and never leave them uninformed. I will be fair and impartial when recommending both rewards and punishment.

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my Soldiers.

I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers, and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals, noncommissioned officers, leaders!

If it seems strange...DON'T OPEN IT!!!



If you receive a suspicious letter or package, follow these four steps:

- 1 Handle with care. Don't shake or bump
- 2 Isolate it immediately
- 3 Don't open, smell, touch or taste.
- 4 Treat it as suspect. Call the MPs immediately – 751-3114/3115

171st Soldiers get lesson in history

By CAPT. JAMIL BROWN
171st Infantry Brigade

“How many historians do we have in here?” Col. Jeffrey Sanderson, chief of staff, asked a group of company, battalion and brigade leaders last week.

When only a few of the Soldiers in attendance raised their hands, Sanderson repeated the question, until every hand was raised. Everyone wearing a U.S. Army uniform, he said, should be a historian.

Sanderson’s remarks were part of a “Prelude to Gettysburg” briefing he gave one day before 171st Infantry Brigade leaders left for a leadership development staff ride to Gettysburg, Pa., last week. The Gettysburg trip was the first of its kind for the brigade.

Being a historian, he said, is important for any Army leader. His briefing detailed the circumstances leading up to the pivotal Battle of Gettysburg during the Civil War.

“Those who do not remember the past are condemned to repeat it,” Sanderson said, repeating the famous George Santayana quote.

The leadership development training was aimed at the brigade’s company commanders and re-enlisting Soldiers. Col. Karl Reed, brigade commander, used the trip as a chance to showcase attributes of military leadership that are still in use today. One example, Reed noted, is Col. Joshua Chamberlain’s defense of Little Round Top, which is used today in Army Field Manual 6-22, “Army Leadership,” to display leadership components.

“As a lieutenant in Germany, the first significant event I participated in was the (Expert Infantryman Badge),” Reed said. “The second was a professional development trip to Normandy. After walking the battlefield, I made the decision to become a career officer. I wanted to give my commanders the same opportunity to experience the sacrifices of those who came before us.”

Reed also wanted the brigade’s re-enlisting Soldiers to have a chance to do so at the historic location. Nine Soldiers from the brigade extended their careers on Little Round Top.

Little Round Top, the smaller of two rocky hills south of Gettysburg, was the site

of an unsuccessful assault by Confederate troops against the Union.

The Soldiers recited their oaths in front of a monument to Col. Patrick O’Rourke, a decorated Union Soldier killed during the battle. The words valor, fraternity, patriotism, and duty are engraved on the four sides of the monument, all of which are critical qualities of the Soldiers who have volunteered to further serve their families and country.

Staff Sgt. John Fry, Company E, 187th Ordnance Battalion, said being at Gettysburg gave him a different perspective of the battle and made him feel that he was a part of it. This was Fry’s third re-enlistment and he did not hesitate to take his oath on the historic battlefield.

“I’ve always re-enlisted on the battlefield,” Fry said. “Afghanistan, Iraq and now Gettysburg.”

Right: Staff Sgt. John Fry re-enlists on Little Round Top in Gettysburg.

Below: Bill Pieszak, licensed battlefield guide, uses a wooden hook to explain how Union forces were assembled during the Battle of Gettysburg.

Photos by CAPT. JAMIL BROWN



Pausing for flag a small sacrifice

Tradition. It is one of Fort Jackson's hallmarks. Before training and transformation, it is the first underlying pillar of Fort Jackson's Vision Statement — "a proud legacy of training and inspiring American Soldiers...."

If we believe this, then why do we frequently overlook a common Army tradition? You know this time-honored military custom to which I refer. It happens every day at Fort Jackson — the posting and lowering of the flag.

Routinely, and too often, we fail to observe and render honors to our national colors. Some are not guilty, but many of us are. Every uniformed or patriotic motorist who knowingly keeps driving at 6 a.m. or 5 p.m. needs to remember why we serve.

I do not believe the reason for this overlooked observance is a genuine lack of patriotism. Perhaps the problem is complacency. Maybe it is a lack of knowledge about tradition or protocol. Sometimes it might be laziness, or just simply oversight. Some of us probably believe that the right thing to do is indeed to keep driving. There are many arguments as to why drivers should not stop:

— As an Initial Entry Training TRADOC installation, between all the graduations and family days, there are too many drivers on Thursdays or Fridays who might not understand.

— If we tried to block all major intersections to observe this honored custom — which many installations do observe — it could create traffic hazards.

However, I don't buy those arguments.

Last week, I was approaching the main gate to leave

COMMENTARY

Capt. Ric Haeussler

Strategic plans officer



post when traffic was briefly stopped for a motorist who was conducting a U-turn. During the brief U-turn traffic halt, retreat sounded, followed by the cannon shot and the playing of "To the Colors," just as it does every day.

Ten or more cars were stopped to wait. I was first in line. I hopped off my motorcycle, and three other Soldiers got out of their cars. We each stood at attention and saluted.

During my salute, I glanced at two Soldiers in uniform through a couple of windshields directly in front of and adjacent to me. The Soldiers, an officer and an NCO, both stayed in their cars. One even looked me in the eye then cocked his head to one side in apparent annoyance that I was blocking the lane and had chosen to hold up the rest of the line.

Having commanded Soldiers in a Basic Combat Training battalion for two years — and in that time participating in many family days and graduations — I believe enforcing this simple observance more stringently will help our new Soldiers. Small customs that we often over-

look promote morale, build esprit de corps and reinforce the sense of tradition we want to instill in our warriors.

I am convinced that new Soldiers are proud to demonstrate what they have learned. Their cadre have spent nine or 10 weeks drilling this very observance into each Soldier's daily routine.

Would it really inconvenience law enforcement to send out just a few extra MPs at 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. to block five to 10 key intersections on post for less than three minutes?

If so, maybe it could at least be done in the evenings when many motorists are heading home or guests and families are sharing time with their loved ones.

Remember that these loved ones are Soldiers. They may be new Soldiers, but that is all the more reason to do so; for they are the very ones who so recently volunteered.

And they volunteered for what? To serve, protect, defend — and if need be — die for something greater than themselves: Our nation.

And don't forget that this great nation, the United States of America, is symbolized by our flag, Old Glory. She is that honorable, stalwart, tattered and torn, uplifted, beaten and trodden, weathered, proud, colorful, controversial, loved, hated, presentable on behalf of the president of the United States and a grateful nation, changed, yet unchanging piece of glorious cloth — the Stars and Stripes.

Is it worth it to you to go out of your way for a few minutes each day to pay traditional respects to Old Glory?

It is to me.

Battlefield visit more than a simple trip

Last week, I had the opportunity to join other Soldiers and company commanders of the 171st Infantry Brigade on a trip to the Gettysburg Battlefield. This was an awesome opportunity and a great learning experience for everyone.

I have been to Gettysburg twice before, and each time, including this time, I learn something new about leadership and the battle itself. There is much to be said of the history of this battle — history that comes to life through true accounts of courage on both sides. The vastness of knowledge is incomparable.

It was raining when we left for Gettysburg, and we were prepared for a wet, dreary day. As we neared Gettysburg, the clouds broke and our weather could not have been any more beautiful had we asked for such a beautiful day. Our tour guide was excellent, a former field artillery noncommissioned officer.

In just two hours, he flooded our minds with history of the battle and those of us who thought we knew a great deal realized what we knew paled in comparison to his vast knowledge of the accounts of this battle. He was, undeniably, a historian.

Brigade leadership decided we would have a group re-

COMMENTARY

Capt. Phillip Moore

HHC commander, 171st Infantry Brigade



enlistment at the site where unparalleled courage was displayed in the Civil War: Little Round Top.

The hill was the site where Col. Joshua Chamberlain of the 20th Maine led a brave and heroic bayonet charge to save the Union flank. What better place to re-enlist NCOs who have proven themselves in battle? Where better to administer the oath where true leadership was displayed at a time when immovable courage and honor was needed to "hold the line" and protect the Union?

Col. Karl Reed, brigade commander, and Master Sgt. Mark Kirkland, brigade retention NCOIC, personally exhorted the Soldiers to carefully examine the Army values

and lifelong opportunities made possible through an Army career.

With today's unemployment numbers, we must examine the total package we have in the Army compared to the total package offered as a civilian. All of us serving today have to consider this. To see the emphasis placed on this mission by the commander was really awesome. I have never experienced heartfelt attention at this level before.

The re-enlistment took place in front of the most beautiful view overlooking the "Devils Den" area of the battlefield. The view was, in the words of Confederate Lt. Gen. John Bell "Sam" Hood, "the most awful ground I've ever seen."

But to us, it was a beautiful view overlooking deep green fields and great rock formations in clear view on a cloudless day. We were set for the climax of our day.

Nine NCOs lined up on the edge of the rock, and under the direction of Col. Reed, took the oath. Several onlookers pressed in to see what was taking place, and at the words "So help me God" ending the oath, they joined in with our applause. What an exuberant time for these Soldiers, one that I doubt they will ever forget.

I know I never will.

Two additional CDCs set to open next year

Fort Jackson has planned the construction of two additional child development centers, which are set to open by 2010.

The land has been cleared to make way for the new centers, which will be adjacent to the Youth Services Center on Chesnut Street.

One facility will have a capacity of 135 children and will be about 14,200 square feet. It will include a multipurpose room that is approximately 1,360 square feet and a larger multipurpose room of 2,470 square feet.

The second facility will be about 17,200 square feet and have a capacity of 160 children.

This child development center will have a 2,982 square foot multipurpose room. Both centers will have their own dedicated, age-appropriate play grounds. Each center comes equipped with furniture, fixtures, and adequate dining space.

“Both facilities will have full-service kitchens as well as a demonstration kitchen for the children,” said Rose Edmond, CYSS chief.

Both CDCs will meet the most up-to-date fire and mass notification systems codes. There will be sufficient parking, which will be an improvement to the current parking situation.

There are tentative plans to offer extended care hours at one of the sites.

“We will transition Soldiers who are using extended care hours at Scales Child Development Center and the Youth Center to one of the new facilities,” said Edmond.

The new facilities will allow CYSS to expand program offerings.

“We will also be able to avoid waiting lists for care as

Army Family Covenant

THERESA O'HAGAN

Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation

the population at Fort Jackson and Shaw Air Force Base increase over the next several years and we experience and increased need for care,” she said. “Having three facilities (the Youth Services Center and the two new facilities) in one area should provide more convenience for our patrons, especially those with large families.”

According to Edmond, the new facilities will enable CYSS to provide more services. She also anticipates hiring additional staff in October.

FMWR expects to begin site preparation in 30-60 days and has a target completion date of March.

“We are hoping to have a grand opening celebration in the 2010 timeframe,” Edmond said.

As always, when any structure is built in a former training area, environmental tests must be conducted prior to approving the site for construction.

The CDCs will be located in an area formerly used for small arms training. A historical records review and site inspection were conducted to determine if the site was impacted by lead, which is the primary concern associated with small arms training. Fieldwork included a visual survey, using the latest technology, and the collection of surface soil samples.

Results indicate that lead is not present above the residential screening level recommended by the Environmental Protection Agency.

FMWR calendar

TODAY

- ☐ Visit Century Lanes for food, fun and bowling.
- ☐ Magraders Pub and Club is open for lunch.
- ☐ Visit the Officers' Club 11 a.m.-1:30 p.m. for specials or the buffet.
- ☐ Soldiers and Vets Tournament, noon, Fort Jackson Golf Club.

TOMORROW

- ☐ Artistic Expressions with Jake, 6:30 p.m., Teen Room at the Youth Services Center.
- ☐ Dance to a variety of music provided by DJ Randall at Magraders Club, 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. Magraders Club is located in the back of Magraders Pub. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military.
- ☐ Fish fry at the Officers' Club, 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
- ☐ Senior Golf Championship, noon, Fort Jackson Golf Club.

SATURDAY

- ☐ Step Team practice, 2 p.m., dance room at the Youth Services Center.
- ☐ Classic Soul Saturday, 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m., Excalibur Room at the NCO Club. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military. Live broadcast from the BIG DM 103.1 with giveaways, 9:30-11 p.m.

SUNDAY

- ☐ Family day at the Youth Services Center, 2-6 p.m.
- ☐ Traditional brunch, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m, Officers' Club.

MONDAY

- ☐ The NCO Club offers a full lunch buffet Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. for \$7.
- ☐ The Fort Jackson Golf Club is closed to aerify the greens.

WEDNESDAY

- ☐ Karaoke night with Tom Marable at Magraders Club. Cover charge is \$5 for civilians and \$3 for military.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ☐ New passport requirements take effect June 1. For more information about the new requirements, visit www.fortjacksonmwr.com/travel.

ONGOING OFFERS

- ☐ The Officers' Club is ready to host your next special event. The club's professional staff will ensure every detail is addressed so your event will be to your specifications.
- ☐ The NCO Club breakfast is served 6-9 a.m., Monday through Friday. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3.75 for children 4-10 years old.
- ☐ Enjoy resort accommodations for between two and six people with the Armed Forces Vacation Club for less than one would pay for most hotels. For details of resort availability, call the reservation center at (800) 724-9988. Be sure to say you are a first-time Armed Forces vacation caller. A vacation counselor will take your enrollment and help you find an available resort. Fort Jackson is installation number 164.1.

No One Buckles Up Alone

Don't get stuck with a ticket. Cops are cracking down. Buckle up day and night or you will get caught.

SAFE Summer

Have fun and look out for each other this summer. Do your part to protect your Band of Brothers and Sisters.

CLICK IT OR TICKET DAY & NIGHT

ARMY STRONG <https://safety.army.mil> ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG A BAND OF BROTHERS & SISTERS

CMS Web site offers ‘voice’ to customers

Customer Management Services is giving community members and leaders across Fort Jackson a chance to let their “voices” be heard with just the click of a computer mouse.

The CMS Web site offers patrons of Fort Jackson’s various agencies an easy way to comment on on-post services.

The Web site can be accessed directly or from the Fort Jackson home page by scrolling down the left column to Customer Management Services.

The Web site details how CMS is the “voice of the customer” and includes customer service information relevant to constituent groups (Soldiers, family members, retirees, veterans and civilian employees) as well as corporate level users (mission commanders and leaders).

The Web site incorporates each aspect of the CMS three-tier approach to customer feedback.

First, there is a link to the Interactive Customer Evaluation, or ICE, comment card system. ICE provides individual feedback to service provider managers and other supporting organizations such as Moncrief Army Community Hospital, DENTAC, AAFES, the commissary and

CUSTOMER SERVICE CORNER

By **VERONICA PATRICK**
Community FIRST Coordinator

Fort Jackson schools.

A community member can click on the ICE logo and rate the agencies in terms of appearance, employee/staff attitude, hours of service and timeliness.

Another link on the CMS Web site is Community FIRST, which provides constituent group feedback. The Community FIRST quarterly issue resolution process is an avenue to submit issues beyond the capability of ICE to the Garrison directorates or other supporting organizations.

An electronic issue form can be accessed by clicking on the Community FIRST/AFAP logo. There is a listing of all completed issues categorized by fiscal year, unattainable issues as voted by the Installation Action Council IAC and active issues that are still being worked.

Additionally, the CMS Web site has

links to the annual corporate and constituent assessments.

Constituent assessments allow Soldiers, retirees, veterans, family members and civilian employees to rate services from a personal perspective.

Corporate assessments allow mission commanders and leaders to rate the support of garrison functions.

The results of the previous year’s assessments are available in a PowerPoint presentation that displays the assessment demographics, results by directorate to include top five areas, and action plan information on improving services.

The results can only be accessed from the Fort Jackson network through the CMS Web site.

In addition to these links, the Web site has “CMS News,” which is located along the left column. These articles include updates and announcements, proceedings from IAC meetings and various focus groups conducted throughout the year, all of which are also printed in the *Fort Jackson Leader*.

There is also a link to descriptions of all service provider areas located across the installation.

ICE APPRECIATION

The garrison congratulates Moncrief Army Community Hospital; specifically the PX Pharmacy and the Gynecology Clinic. Throughout a 12-week period, they achieved a 4.88 and a 4.64 percent rating, respectively, out of a possible 5.0 in employee/staff attitude. This is an outstanding performance in customer service.

To view the status of all Community FIRST issues or to submit a new issue, visit the Customer Management Services Web site at <http://www.jackson.army.mil/WellBeing/wellbeing.htm>.

Click on the “Submit an Issue or Recommendation” link or click on the Community FIRST/AFAP logo to submit an issue.

Whether it affects individuals and constituent groups here at Fort Jackson or throughout the Army, feedback is important.

Help improve the community by submitting issues and recommendations online.

Saluting this BCT cycle’s honorees

DRILL SERGEANTS OF THE CYCLE



Staff Sgt. Robert Brady
Company A
1st Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE

Spc. James Jones

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE

Spc. Shaun Barclay

HIGH BRM

Pvt. Cori Bryant

HIGH APFT SCORE

Spc. Logan McDarment



Staff Sgt. Felicia Greer
Company D
1st Battalion,
13th Infantry Regiment

SOLDIER LEADER OF THE CYCLE

Pfc. Stephanie Matos

SOLDIER OF THE CYCLE/ HIGH APFT

Pfc. Lacey Mechtl

HIGH BRM

Pvt. Alex Goehring
Pvt. Jacob Merritt

CPAC CORNER

DoD Codes of Conduct

OFF DUTY EMPLOYMENT

Army personnel must not engage in outside employment that:

- ☐ Interferes with their ability to perform their government duties;
- ☐ Appears to create conflicts of interest involving the Army or the U.S. government;
- ☐ May reasonably be expected to bring discredit or criticism against the employee; or the Army.

This restriction further disallows canvassing, soliciting and peddling of goods and products (AVON, school candy, etc.) by employees during working hours.

Civilian employees must normally obtain official permission before engaging in off-duty employment if the prospective employer transacts or is proposing to transact business with the DoD or its departments.

Inquiries regarding the appropriateness of off-duty employment should be directed to the Judge Advocate’s Office.

Visit the U.S. Department of Defense Standards of Conduct Office Web site at http://www.dod.mil/dodgc/defense_ethics/ for more restrictions.

GIFTS

Federal employees may not solicit or accept anything of monetary value, including gifts, gratuities, favors, entertainment or loans from any individual or business who:

- ☐ Has or is seeking to obtain contractual or other business or financial relations with the Army or DoD.
- ☐ Conducts operations or activities that are regulated by the Army or DoD.
- ☐ Has interests that may be substantially affected by the performance or nonperformance of an employee’s official duties.

Furthermore, federal employees may not give a gift to or contribute to a gift for their supervisor (or a supervisor within their chain of command).

Employees also may not solicit a contribution from another employee for a gift for either their own or that employee’s supervisor.

Finally, an employee may not accept a gift from someone who is paid less than him or her, unless that person is not a subordinate and a personal relationship justifies the gift. This does not apply to a voluntary gift up to \$10 or a donation of nominal amount made on a special occasion such as marriage, illness, transfer or retirement.

CONTACTING THE LEADER

☐ To submit a story idea or an announcement, or to request coverage of an event, e-mail details to FJLeader@conus.army.mil or call 751-7045.

Recurring meetings

WEEKLY

Walking away stress
Mondays and Fridays, 9 a.m. at the pecan orchard near the post office on Early Street, 751-6325.

Play group
Mondays, 10-11:45 a.m. at 5615 Hood St., Room 8, for children 4 and younger, 751-1071/6304.

Range control briefing
Mondays and Fridays, 1 p.m. at the Education Center, Room 302, 751-7171.

Columbia Composite Squadron (Civil Air Patrol)
Mondays, 6:30 p.m. at Owens Field, main conference room. E-mail *tom.alsup@gmail.com* or visit *www.scwg.cap.gov*.

Helping everyone reach optimum strength
Tuesdays, 5-6 p.m. at Moncrief Army Community Hospital, seventh floor. Open to combat veterans and their family members, 751-2160/2183.

Medical Board Office
Closed Thursdays, 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., 751-0359/7152 or 7318.

Protestant Women of the Chapel
Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Main Post Chapel, bible study and fellowship. Home schoolers are welcome. Free child care is available. E-mail *pwocjackson@yahoo.com*.

Military Widows/Widowers Association
Sundays, 2 p.m. at Moncrief Army Community Hospital, eighth floor, 787-2469.

MONTHLY

Ladies Auxiliary
Second Sunday of the month, 3 p.m. at 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 782-5943 or 782-0148.

Seabees
Second Monday of the month, 7 p.m. at West Metro Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center, 755-7792 or 755-0300.

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Second Monday of the month, 7:30 p.m. at 534 S. Beltline Blvd., 782-5943 or 782-0148.

La Leche breastfeeding support group
First Tuesday of the month, 10 a.m. to noon at 5615 Hood St., Room 8, 751-5256/6325.

Sergeant Audie Murphy Club
First Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m., at the Post Conference Room, *www.jackson.army.mil/360/SAMC/home.htm*.

American Legion Post 182
First Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m. at the Officers’ Club, 351-2333.

National Federation of Federal Employees
Second Tuesday of the month, 11:30 a.m. at 4405 Forney St., first floor, call 751-2622 or e-mail *NFFE@conus.army.mil*.

Disabled American Veterans
Second Tuesday of the month, 6 p.m. at 511 Violet St., West Columbia, 796-7122.

Fleet Reserve Association Unit 202
Third Tuesday of the month, 1 p.m. at 2620 Lee Road, 482-4456.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 4262
Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m. at 5821 North Main St., 754-1614 or 447-2320.

Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 303
Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m. at American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 312-4895.

Purple Heart #402
Fourth Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m. at the American Legion Post 6, 200 Pickens St., 351-2333.

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers
First and third Wednesday of the month, 1:30 p.m. at 4405 Jackson Blvd., 751-1148.

“Victory Riders” Motorcycle Club
First and third Thursdays of the month, 5 p.m. at Magraders Club. E-mail *sec@fjvictoryriders.com*.

Weight Loss Surgery Support Group
Second and fourth Monday of the month, noon at the Weight Management Center, 180 Laurel St.
Second and fourth Tuesday of the month, 6:30 p.m. at the Palmetto Health Baptist Breast Health Center, 1501 Sumter St., ground level, Meeting Room 2.

Society of American Military Engineers
Fourth Thursday of the month, 11:30 a.m., 254-0518 or 765-0320.

MEDPROS training
Third Friday of the month, 1-4 p.m. at Moncrief Army Community Hospital, Room 9-83. E-mail *Jaclynne.Smith@amedd.army.mil*.

Retired Enlisted Association
Third Friday of the month, 5:30 p.m. at Moncrief Army Community Hospital, third floor, call 740-2319 or e-mail *jrodgers11@sc.rr.com*.

92nd Buffalo Chapter 20 DAV
Third Saturday of the month, except July and August, 11 a.m. at the DAV Headquarters 511 Violet St., West Columbia, 260-1067.

U.S. Navy Sea Cadets
Third weekend of the month, for 11-18 year olds, 622-8707.

Fort Jackson Spouses’ Club
Monthly meetings, visit *www.fortjacksonspousesclub.com* or e-mail *Ft.JacksonSpousesclub@yahoo.com*.

Thrift Shop board
Second Monday of the month, 10 a.m. at the Thrift Shop, 787-2153.

Veterans of Foreign Wars Gandy-Griffin Post 4262
Third Tuesday of the month, 7 p.m. at 5821 North Main St., 754-1614 or 447-2320.

The Ladies Auxiliary Post 4262
Second Sunday of the month, 5 p.m. at 5821 North Main St., 754-1614.

American Red Cross
New adult volunteers orientation is the second Wednesday of the month from 9 a.m. to noon at building 2179 on Sumter Ave. For more information, call 571-4329.

SUBMISSIONS
To submit a recurring meeting, e-mail the name of the group, when and where the meeting takes place and contact information to *fjleader@conus.army.mil*.

HAPPENINGS

Calendar

Today
2009 Soldier & Vets Charity Golf Tournament
11 a.m., registration; Event starts at noon.
Fort Jackson’s Old Hickory Golf Course
Call 751-4329 for information.

Tomorrow
Red Cross Bloodmobile
8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.
DOL headquarters, 2600 Lee Rd.
Call 360-2036 for information.

Friday-Saturday
Commissary caselot sale
Fort Jackson Commissary

Tuesday
C.O.A.S.T. meeting
1:15-2:30 p.m., 5615 Hood St.
New spouse informational/social.

Wednesday
Asian Pacific Heritage Month luncheon
11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., NCO Club

Thursday, May 21
The Rocks Inc.
“Promotions and Selections”
5:30 p.m., Post Conference Room

Friday, May 22
17th Annual International Day
8:30 a.m., Pierce Terrace Elementary

Announcements

MILITARY SALES HOURS
Operating hours for the Military Clothing and Sales Store are Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

1ST BCTG SOLDIERS WANTED
The 1st Battle Command Training Group Army Reserve is establishing a detachment in the Columbia area and looking for Soldiers. There are immediate openings for Soldiers in ranks sergeant through lieutenant colonel, regardless of rank. For more information, call (205) 987-8443 ext. 4414, (205) 444-5208/5163 or e-mail Larry.KingSr@usar.army.mil, John.R.Walker@usar.army.mil or Karlos.Parker@usar.army.mil.

SEVERE WEATHER SIREN
Fort Jackson tests its emergency siren warning system at noon on Wednesdays. The tests are designed to ensure the emergency alert system works and to raise awareness about the system’s existence.

MYRTLE BEACH MILITARY APPRECIATION DAYS
The Myrtle Beach Military Appreciation Days are scheduled May 28-30. The 5K run/walk is scheduled Saturday, May 30. Registration is free for active duty military and \$20 for veterans and civilians.

Race day registration and packet pickup 6:30-7:45 a.m., Crabtree gym, 1004 Meyers Ave. Race times are 8 a.m., wheelchair 5K and 8:30 a.m., 5K run/walk.
Call (843) 918-1191 for more information.

MUSEUM CLOSING AND HOURS
The U.S. Army Basic Combat Training Museum will close tomorrow until further notice. Until then, the operating hours are: Monday-Wednesday — closed; Thursday — 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

CID CRITERIA CHANGE
CID has changed its acceptance criteria to temporarily accept staff sergeants. The change now allows Soldiers, E-4 to E-6, regardless of MOS to apply. Applicants must be eligible to obtain a top secret clearance, be at least 21 years old and have served at least two years on active duty.
To apply, visit www.cid.army.mil or contact the Fort Jackson CID office at 751-7665/3789.

RED CROSS SEEKS VOLUNTEERS
Volunteers are needed to role play during a shelter operations exercise 9 a.m.-noon, Tuesday at the Red Cross Station Office. Call 751-4329 to volunteer.

CoC/CoR ceremonies

Today
Change of Responsibility, 171st Infantry Brigade
10 a.m., Joe E. Mann Center
Command Sgt. Maj. James Williams Jr. relinquishes responsibility to Command Sgt. Maj. Karl Schmitt.

Wednesday, May 20
Change of Command, 4th Battalion, 10th Infantry Regiment
9 a.m., Darby Field
Lt. Col. Richard Smarr relinquishes command to Lt. Col. Richard Macdermott.

Housing events

Tomorrow
Junior paleontologist adventure
3:15 p.m.
Children 10 years and younger can dig for fossils, hunt for dinosaur eggs and more to become a junior paleontologist.

Wednesday, May 20
Sunscreen Awareness Day
1 p.m.

Leader deadlines
Community submissions to the *Leader* should be typed and no more than 45 words.
Announcements must be submitted one week prior to the event.

Friday, May 29
Breakfast on the go
7:30 p.m., Corner of Chesnut and Carter.
Stop by for a free breakfast on the way to school.

All events are held in the Balfour Beatty Communities management office unless otherwise specified. For more information, call Courtney Williams at 738-8275.

Off-post events

Saturday, May 16
Palmetto Patriots Ball
Embassy Suites Hotel, Columbia
Cocktails — 6 pm., dinner —7 p.m.
For tickets or information visit www.bluestarmotherssc.com or call 206-6088.

Sunday
Meet the Explorers
3 p.m., Richland County Public Library Main Branch, Bostick Auditorium
Call 929-3457.

HOST AN EXCHANGE STUDENT
The Foundation for Intercultural Travel is an exchange visitor program that matches international students, 15 to 18, with host families in the local area. Call (877) 439-7862 for more information.

HOMEOWNERS WORKSHOPS
The Homeownership Resource Center is offering a free foreclosure workshop for homeowners.
First and third Saturdays, 9-11 a.m. and every last Tuesday of the month, 5-7 p.m. at the Midlands Community Development Corporations-Dream Center, 2340 Atlas Road. Call 1-888-320-0350.

Housing Happenings

❑ To date, 24 units have been demolished. The community center areas have been cleared, and plumbing began this week. Abatement and demolition will continue in the JNCO area (PT3 and PT6).

❑ Demolition started in the company-grade officer area this week.

❑ Concrete slabs have been poured in the senior officer area. Plumbing infrastructure and concrete are ongoing.

❑ Dirt hauling began in the housing areas this week. Be cautious of the large trucks moving throughout Knight and Furman Smith roads.

❑ Neighborhood huddles are scheduled Tuesday at 5:30 pm and May 21 at 10 a.m. in the Post Conference Room. Call Courtney at 738-8275 for information.

❑ Can you use an extra \$500? Residents with leases expiring July 31 can renew their resident responsibility agreement (lease) for an additional year and receive \$500. The first \$250 will be paid at signing and the remaining \$250 will be paid at the end of one year. Because of the number of leases expiring, residents will be notified in three phases. However, residents with leases expiring July 31 may renew prior to receiving formal notification.

❑ Quarters upgrades! Please contact Balfour Beatty if you are interested in having some upgrades done to your home. Upgrades include floor coverings, kitchen/bath, etc. Contact 738-8275 for information.

❑ Remember to get your DA surveys completed and dropped off to enter to win one of many great prizes including a chance at winning a 42” flat screen LCD/HDTV! The earlier you return your surveys the more chances you have to win. Drawings are conducted each Friday.



Photos by MIKE A. GLASCH
Above: Rather than try to help his fellow Soldiers, Pvt. Stephen Colbert goes totally limp as Soldiers try to get him over one of the walls on the five-wall obstacle of the Confidence Course. Right: Colbert arrives at the 120th Adjutant General Battalion (Reception) in a stretch limousine, asking his drill sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Demetrius Chantz, for help from a bellman.



Colbert trains for ‘deployment’

By MIKE A. GLASCH
Leader Staff

While the vast majority of new Soldiers arrive to Basic Combat Training in a bus from the airport, the Army’s newest private arrived in a style befitting his cult-like status.

Pvt. Stephen Colbert, of The Colbert Report, showed up in front of the 120th Adjutant General Battalion (Reception) Friday in a stretch limousine ready to begin his in-processing.

Colbert got off on the wrong foot when he dropped his bag in front of his drill sergeant and promptly asked, “Can I get a bellman?”

Colbert and a production crew spent the day filming scenes of Colbert being put through various BCT training events under the instruction and watchful eye of his drill sergeant, Sgt. 1st Class Demetrius Chantz, an instructor at the U.S. Army Drill Sergeant School.

The scenes are for The Colbert Report’s upcoming trip to the Persian Gulf. The show will broadcast for an entire week from the region.

“We were invited last July, but I wasn’t able to go over at the time because I was committed to finishing the election cycle,” Colbert said. “But as soon as that was over, I approached General Petraeus’ office to see if the offer still stood. We couldn’t be more thrilled to be going over there and having the honor of taking a shot at making the troops laugh.”

From drill and ceremony, to team building exercises, to rappelling down Victory Tower, Chantz knew he would have his hands full with the political satirist.

“I had seen his show before, so I knew going in how funny he was,” Chantz said.

The drill sergeant added that he knew ahead of time what scenes they would be filming, but that the crew did not give him any specific lines to say.

“It was all ad-lib,” Chantz said. “I just responded like I would on the trail.”

When asked how Pvt. Colbert fared, Chantz just shook his head in disgust.

“He wouldn’t graduate,” he said. “We would be in trouble if he was in uniform.”

Colbert admitted that his character would not perform well in the team atmosphere of the Army.

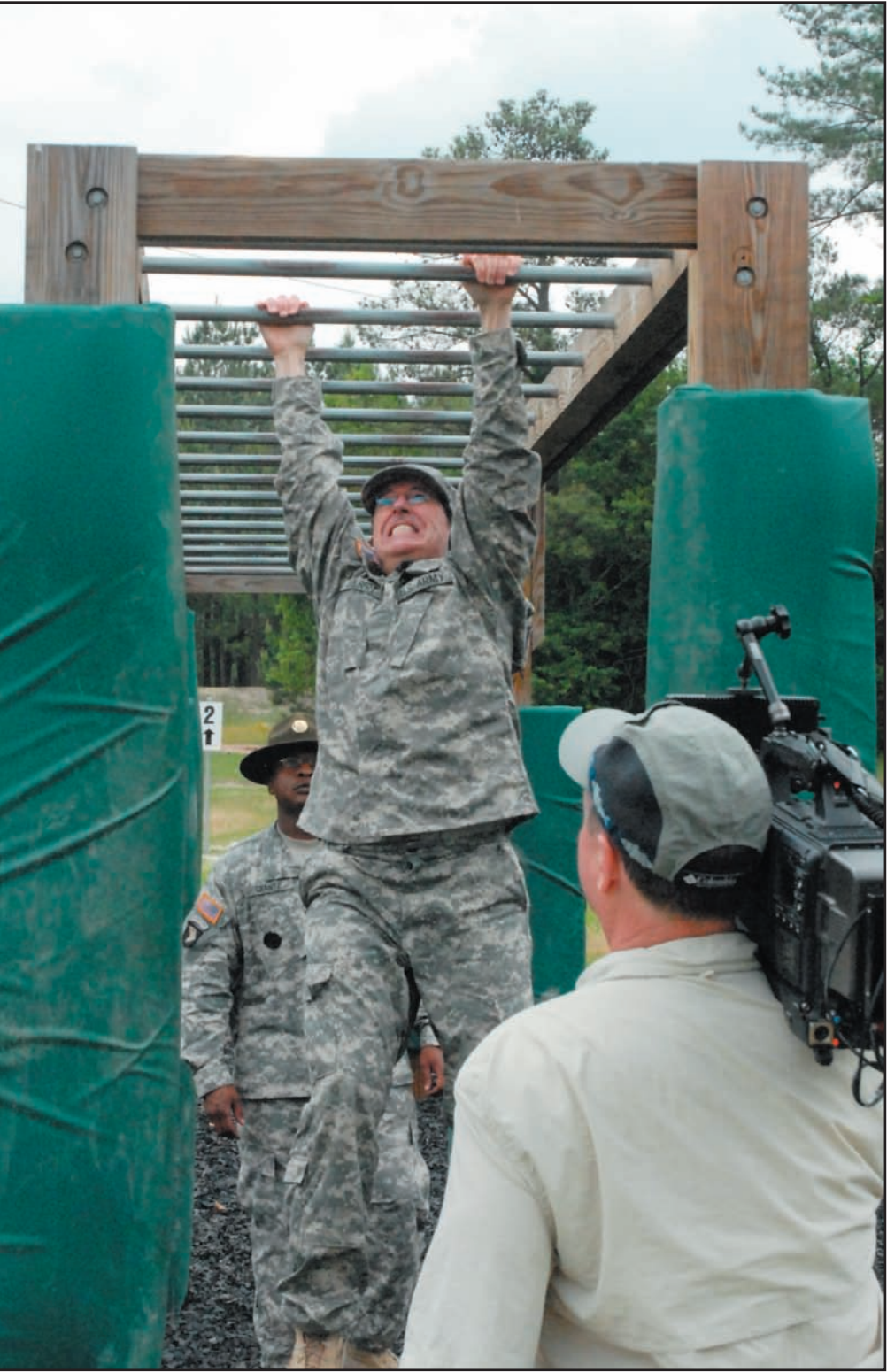
“He’s all for himself. When we did the five wall obstacle I didn’t put any effort into it. I just went limp like a ragdoll (and let the other Soldiers push me over the wall),” Colbert said. “But that’s my character; he’s just all for himself. He’s a terrible team member.”

While that aspect of his character does not reflect the real Stephen Colbert, he does share his on-air persona’s admiration for servicemembers.

Through his show, he has helped raised money for the Yellow Ribbon Fund, and is currently helping to raise money for the Support Our Troops’ Children organization.

Colbert sees taking his show on the road as one more way to thank all of those who serve.

“One of the reasons we are broadcasting the shows, is that while we are doing it for those who are going to be there that night in person, this is a great



A production crew films Colbert as he negotiates the horizontal ladder on the Fit to Win II Course Friday. Colbert was at Fort Jackson to film a segment for his show’s upcoming trip to the Persian Gulf.

opportunity to salute all the troops for everything they do,” he said.

A post-wide e-mail will be sent out once the exact air date of the episode is scheduled.

Michael.A.Glasch@us.army.mil

Sleep disorders examined

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Sleep-related difficulties affect many people. The following is a description of some of the major sleep disorders.

If you, or someone you know, is experiencing any of the following, it may be important to receive an evaluation by a health care provider or, if necessary, a provider specializing in sleep medicine.

INSOMNIA

Insomnia is characterized by an inability to initiate or maintain sleep. It may also take the form of early morning awakening in which the individual awakens several hours early and is unable to resume sleeping.

Difficulty initiating or maintaining sleep may often manifest itself as excessive daytime sleepiness, which characteristically results in functional impairment throughout the day.

Before arriving at a diagnosis of primary insomnia, the healthcare provider will rule out other potential causes, such as other sleep disorders, side effects of medications, substance abuse, depression, or other previously undetected illness.

Chronic psychophysiological insomnia (or “learned” or “conditioned” insomnia) may result from a stressor combined with fear of being unable to sleep. Individuals with this condition may sleep better when not in their own beds.

Health care providers may treat chronic insomnia with a combination of use of sedative-hypnotic or sedating antidepressant medications, along with behavioral techniques to promote regular sleep.

NARCOLEPSY

Excessive daytime sleepiness (including episodes of irresistible sleepiness) combined with sudden muscle weakness are the hallmark signs of narcolepsy.

The sudden muscle weakness seen in narcolepsy may be elicited by strong emotion or surprise. Episodes of narcolepsy have been described as “sleep attacks” and may occur in unusual circumstances, such as walking and other forms of physical activity.

The health care provider may treat narcolepsy with stimulant medications combined with behavioral interventions, such as regularly scheduled naps, to minimize the potential disruptiveness of narcolepsy on the individual’s life.

RESTLESS LEGS SYNDROME

RLS is characterized by an unpleasant “creeping” sensation, often feeling like it is originating in the lower legs, but often associated with aches and pains throughout the legs.

This often causes difficulty initiating sleep and is relieved by movement of the leg, such as walking or kicking. Abnormalities in the neurotransmitter dopamine have often been associated with RLS.

Health care providers often combine a medication to help correct the underlying dopamine abnormality along with a medicine to promote sleep continuity in the treatment of RLS.

SLEEP APNEA

Snoring may be more than just an annoying habit — it may be a sign of sleep apnea.

People with sleep apnea characteristically make periodic gasping or “snorting” noises, during which their sleep is momentarily interrupted. Those with sleep apnea may also experience excessive daytime sleepiness, as their sleep is commonly interrupted and may not feel restorative.

Treatment of sleep apnea is dependent on its cause. If other medical problems are present, such as congestive heart failure or nasal obstruction, sleep apnea may resolve with treatment of these conditions.

Gentle air pressure administered during sleep (typically in the form of a nasal continuous positive airway pressure device) may also be effective in the treatment of sleep apnea.

As interruption of regular breathing or obstruction of the airway of the individual during sleep can pose serious complications for the health of the individual, symptoms of sleep apnea should be taken seriously.

For more information, visit www.cdc.gov/sleep/disorders.htm.

MACH updates

CATARACT SCREENING

The Moncrief Army Community Hospital Ophthalmology Clinic will conduct quick cataract evaluations tomorrow for all beneficiary categories, including active-duty family members, retirees and retiree family members.

To schedule an appointment, call 751-5406. Patients do not need a referral to schedule an appointment.

APPOINTMENT CANCELLATIONS

A phone number has been established for patients who cancel their appointments after duty hours. To cancel an appointment after duty hours, call 751-2904. During duty hours, from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., call 751-CARE (2273) to cancel an appointment.

NEW PHARMACY LOCATION

The pharmacy is now located on the ground floor, and the TRICARE, EFMP and EDIS offices are located on the 10th floor.

MACH TOLL-FREE NUMBER

Reach MACH toll-free at (877) 273-5584 or locally at 751-CARE (2273), or visit online at www.moncrief.amedd.army.mil or www.tricare.osd.mil.

MEDICAL RECORDS

Medical records are the property of the U.S. government and must be turned in at the Medical Records Station upon enrolling at MACH.

TRICARE increases ECHO payment cap

TRICARE Management Activity

TRICARE has increased the amount it will pay for certain Extended Care Health Option, or ECHO, benefits. ECHO assists eligible family members (of active duty sponsors) who are diagnosed with moderate or severe mental retardation, a serious physical disability or an extraordinary physical or psychological condition.

The total TRICARE cost share for training, rehabilitation, special education and assistive technology devices was increased to \$36,000 per fiscal year. The cap also covers institutional care in private nonprofit, public and state institutions and facilities and, if appropriate, transportation to and from such institutions and facilities. The TRICARE Enhanced Access to Autism Services “demonstration” is also included.

“This is good news for military families out there with an ECHO-qualified family member,” said Maj. Gen. Elder Granger, deputy director of TRICARE Management Activity. “This change will help make services more accessible to our deserving spe-

cial needs beneficiaries.”

Previously, all ECHO benefits were subject to a government cost-share limit of \$2,500 per month.

Some ECHO benefits are still subject to the \$2,500 per month cap and ECHO Home Health Care has its own unique reimbursement limits.

The ECHO increase was included in the National Defense Authorization Act for fiscal year 2009.

As a result, TRICARE urges eligible beneficiaries to submit any claims for their out-of-pocket payments for the identified ECHO services received on or after Oct. 14, 2008 that were previously limited by the \$2,500 monthly cap.

For more information visit:
<http://www.tricare.mil/ECHO> or
<http://www.health.mil/tmablog/Article.aspx?ID=470>

To locate a regional managed care support contractor visit:
<http://www.tricare.mil/contactus>

Pillar effort



Photo by NICHOLE RILEY, Moncrief Army Community Hospital

MEDDAC Command Sgt. Maj. Harry Tharp presents a certificate of achievement to Joseph Caruso, American Red Cross volunteer, who retired. Caruso has volunteered in the pharmacy since 1989. During that time, he has counted more than 9 million pills.

Compact provides schools, students with consistency

By **KEISHA MCCOY-WILSON**
School Liaison Officer

Military transitions are routine and are a large part of military life. The average military student will transition more than twice during high school, with most children transitioning from at least six different school systems from kindergarten through 12th grade.

When making long-term life choices, one must consider the effects long deployments and reassignments have on military families and their school-aged children and youth.

Some in-depth concerns are record transfers, course sequencing, graduation requirements, exclusion from extra-curricular activities, redundant or missed entrance/exit testing, kindergarten and first grade entrance age variances and power of custodial parents while parents are deployed.

Government leaders have attempted to address many of these concerns with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.

The Interstate Compact is a document that addresses perceived inequities involving school children of military parents who relocate across state lines.

Specifically, it would allow the laws of the “sending” state to apply to transferring students from military families in the schools of the “receiving” state for such policies as graduation requirements, advanced placements and age of student enrollment.

Currently, there are 14 states that are covered by the compact. Those states are: Alaska, Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Missouri, North Carolina and Oklahoma, Virginia.

Although South Carolina has not yet adopted the Interstate Compact, legislators are considering joining it.

For more information on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children visit <http://www.csg.org/programs/ncic/EducatingMilitaryChildrenCompact.aspx>.

No One Bikes Alone

When riding on an Army installation:

- During hours of darkness or reduced visibility, bicycles must be equipped with an operable headlight and taillight.
- Riders must wear reflective upper garment.
- A Consumer Product Safety Council-approved helmet must be worn.
- Wearing headphones, earphones or other listening devices is prohibited.

SAFE Summer

Have fun and look out for each other this summer.
Do your part to protect our Band of Brothers and Sisters.

U.S. ARMY
ARMY STRONG

U.S. ARMY COMBAT READINESS SAFETY CENTER
<https://safety.army.mil>

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG

A BAND OF BROTHERS & SISTERS

Schoolhouse notes

FORT JACKSON SCHOOLS

- ☐ May 25 — Memorial Day, no school
- ☐ June 5 — end of fourth quarter; last day for students; early dismissal 11:30 a.m.
- ☐ June 8-9 — teacher work days
- ☐ June 10 — report cards mailed

RICHLAND DISTRICT ONE

- ☐ May 29 — last day of school; report cards issued

RICHLAND DISTRICT TWO

- ☐ May 25 — Memorial Day; no school
- ☐ June 5 — last day of school; end of fourth nine weeks
- ☐ June 5 — Graduations: Ridge View High School, 8:30 a.m.; Spring Valley High School, noon; Blythewood High School, 3:30 p.m., Richland Northeast High School, 6:30 p.m. All graduations will be held at the Carolina Coliseum.
- ☐ June 6 — teacher work day; professional development

CHILD CENTERS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

☐ Clemson Road Child Development Center is offering a free program for 4 year olds. Call Debbie Brady at 699-2536. Spears Creek Road CDC is offering a tuition-based program for 3 and 4 year olds. Call Sabina Mosso-Taylor at 865-5355. Applications can be downloaded from www.richland2.org.

PROOF OF RESIDENCY

☐ Richland Two is now verifying addresses of all K-12 students. Addresses must be verified prior to Aug. 3. All kindergartners and students new to the district must provide three verifying documents of residency. Currently enrolled students must provide one verifying document. Acceptable proof includes, a current electric bill, water bill, cable/satellite bill and lease agreement. Waiting until the deadline can delay student enrollment. Visit www.richland2.org for information, or contact your child's school or Roger Wiley, district registrar, 738-3314.

HIGH SCHOOL STABILITY

☐ Senior Stabilization Policy — Soldiers can request to remain at their current duty location until a child has graduated high school. Requests are made in March of the student's sophomore year through Sept. 1 of junior year. Late applications may be accepted. However, once the Soldier has orders, no applications can be made. Soldiers can submit a DD Form 4187 through the chain of command. For more information, call 703-325-4422/5191 or contact the SLO at 751-6150.

ADOPT-A-SCHOOL

☐ The Adopt-A-School program is in need of units interested in participating by volunteering in local on- and off- post schools. Adopt-A-School is an authorized program in accordance with AR 360-6, Army Community Relations. For information call 751-6150.

FIRST RESPONDER

The following are incidents compiled from reports, complaints or information received from the Fort Jackson Provost Marshal Office.

The incidents reflected are not an adjudication attesting to the guilt or innocence of any person and are provided for informational and reflective purposes only.

Lt. Col. Ronald F. Taylor
Director,
Emergency Services/Provost Marshal
Sgt. Maj. Allen Taylor Jr.
Provost Sergeant Major
Billy Forrester
Fire Chief

CASES OF THE WEEK

❑ The Fort Jackson Fire Department broke the front passenger window of a parked car to gain access to a baby who was locked in. The mother had accidentally locked the child in the car and called Military Police for help. The child was not injured, Military Police said.

❑ A retired Soldier sustained minor head injuries in a car accident in the Main Post Exchange parking lot, MPs said. According to the report, the retiree struck a civilian’s car, which resulted in damage to the civilian car’s bumper. The retiree received a citation for failing to yield.

TIP OF THE WEEK

Fort Jackson Regulation 40-12 states in part: Any owner whose dog or cat is found unlawfully running at large shall have no property right or right of ownership over the animal.

The regulation also requires all persons owning a dog or cat and residing in post housing to ensure that the dog(s) and cat(s) residing on Fort Jackson are microchipped.

If the animal is already microchipped, the owner must report this identification number when the animal is registered at the



veterinary clinic.

Owners are also required to ensure that dogs and cats, when outdoors, are on a hand leash under the control of a responsible handler at all times. The only exception to this requirement will be when a dog or cat is contained in an approved fenced area from which it cannot escape.

Dogs can only be kept in fenced areas outdoors if they are provided a means to protect themselves from weather, i.e., a dog house with shade. Animals outdoors must be provided fresh water and fresh food daily, and owners must ensure that pets are not left outside longer than two hours when the temperature is above 90 degrees or below 35 degrees.

Anyone in violation of the provisions of this regulation can be issued a military citation, which could result in the loss of the privilege to maintain the animal on the installation or eviction from post housing.

Any animal not properly maintained can be confiscated by authorities and turned over to the veterinary clinic for proper disposition. If the animal is not microchipped and an owner cannot be identified the animal may be destroyed.



Citations issued in April

Speeding 1-10 mph over	64
Speeding 11-20 mph over	39
Driving too fast for conditions	1
No driver’s license in possession	6
Driving under suspension	10
No mo-ped license	1
Expired vehicle registration	10
Suspended registration	1
No registration	12
No vehicle registration	3
Expired decal	1
Failure to surrender suspended tags	1
Improper display of tags	1
Expired tag	8
No proof of insurance	24
Uninsured vehicle	2
Failure to maintain vehicle equipment	1
Failure to wear helmet	1
Improper PPE gear	1
Child restraint violation	1
Failure to stop at posted stop sign	11
Failure to yield	4
Stop where prohibited	1
Improper stop, standing or parking	4
Unlawful parking	1
Improper parking	3
Prohibited parking	9
Parked on seeded area	4
Parked in a no parking zone	2
Improper Turn	1
No turn signal	1
Unlawful right turn	1
Seatbelt violation	9
Cell phone violation	2
Use of electronic device while driving	3
Improper backing	8
Failure to obey traffic control device	8
Driving left of center	2
Disobedience to person directing traffic	1
Failure to sign in from hunting	3
Littering	1

Total: 267

FORCE PROTECTION
THOUGHT OF THE WEEK
OPERATIONAL SECURITY



LEADER DEADLINES

The *Leader* welcomes reader submissions. When submitting an article, photo or announcement, please adhere to the following deadlines:

❑ Article submissions are due two weeks before the scheduled publication. For example, an article for the May 21 Leader should be submitted by today.

❑ Announcements are due one week before the scheduled publication. For example, an announcement for the May 21 Leader should be submitted by May 14.

❑ Send all submissions to FJLeader@conus.army.mil.

For more information, call 751-7045.

Obtaining dental care for families

I am the family member of an active duty service member. How do I pursue dental care benefits?

Dental care benefits for you are provided by the TRICARE Management Agency in the form of dental insurance. Your sponsor must enroll in this optional program so that you can access this benefit.

This insurance can be used at a variety of qualified providers wherever you are stationed. The TRICARE Dental Program, offered by the DoD through the TRICARE Management Activity, provides worldwide dental coverage for families.

United Concordia Companies Inc. administers and underwrites the TDP for TMA. The TDP is a high-quality, cost-effective dental care plan for family members of all active duty uniformed services personnel and National Guard and reserve members and/or their families.

This program covers family members of active duty service members, including spouses and unmarried children (including stepchildren, adopted children, and wards) under 21.

**COL.
MICHAEL CUENIN**
*Fort Jackson
DENTAC commander*



Unmarried children will be eligible up to the end of the month in which they turn 21, and they may be eligible after 21 (through the end of the month in which he or she turns 23) if they are enrolled full-time at an accredited college or university or are more than 50 percent dependent on the sponsor for financial support.

Active duty family members are strongly encouraged to enroll in the TRICARE Dental Program at <http://www.tricaredentalprogram.com>.

United Concordia verifies member eligibility through

the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System.

It is extremely important that DEERS contains up-to-date information on each family member. Your active duty sponsor can ensure this is done through his or her personnel office.

Finding a dentist who meets your needs can be challenging, but the TRICARE Dental Program makes it easy by providing access to a network of more than 62,000 participating dentists.

As a TDP enrollee residing in the United States, you have the flexibility to seek care from any civilian dentist. However, when you select a TDP participating dentist, you can reduce your out-of-pocket expenses and ease administrative burdens.

A participating dentist has signed a contractual agreement with United Concordia to follow TDP rules for providing care and accepting payments.

The Web portal is easy to use and provides an overview of benefits, the ability to search for local dentists and provides general dental health information about various issues related to the entire family's oral health care.

Keys to accessing safe deposit boxes

By **CAPT. VITO ABRUZZINO**
Legal Assistance Attorney

One question that commonly arises when a person passes away is how to obtain access to the decedent's safe deposit box.

In South Carolina, financial institutions must follow certain minimum procedures required by law to protect the property of the deceased. The following information is provided as a guide for people who wish to avoid the potential pitfalls in accessing a decedent's safe deposit box.

Anyone who has entered a will into probate and has been provided a Certificate of Appointment as a personal representative will be able to perform an initial examination of the decedent's safe deposit box.

This representative will be required to provide the financial institution with identification and the Certificate of Appointment from the probate court.

Depending upon the institution, the personal representative may be required to provide either a driver's license or birth certificate in addition to the Certificate of Appointment.

If the decedent's spouse is named in the will as the personal representative, the surviving spouse is only required to provide the financial institution with a copy of the will and identification proving that he or she is the personal representative named in the will.

It is advisable, however, for the surviving spouse to take a death certificate and marriage license, in addition to a copy of the will, when attempting to gain access to the safe deposit box.

If no copy of the will is available, a death certificate and marriage license, along with personal identification, should suffice for a surviving spouse seeking access to the safe de-

posit box.

South Carolina law stipulates that a decedent's spouse, parent, adult descendant or person named as a personal representative in a copy of the will, must be provided the opportunity to examine the contents of a safe deposit box.

This initial examination takes place in the presence of an officer or other employee of the financial institution. If requested, the financial institution must provide the person examining the safe deposit box the original will if the examining person is named in the will as the decedent's personal representative.

The financial institution is also required to provide the examining person with any writing purporting to be a deed to a burial plot. Also, any beneficiary is to be provided with an insurance policy on the life of the decedent if such documents are in the safe deposit box.

Once a Certificate of Appointment is obtained from the probate court, the personal representative may open the safe deposit box and inventory the contents in the presence of a bank officer and another employee.

This inventory must be itemized in detail, including the opening of all bound packages, even if they are marked property of someone other than the deceased. The personal representative and the bank employee must sign the inventory in the presence of a notary. The notary must also sign the inventory. This inventory is then sent to the South Carolina Tax Commission with a request for a waiver.

Nothing other than the items discussed above may be re-

moved from the safe deposit box until a tax waiver has been received from the South Carolina Tax Commission.

If a 10-day period has elapsed since the tax commission was notified and no objections have been made, items can be removed without the tax waiver.

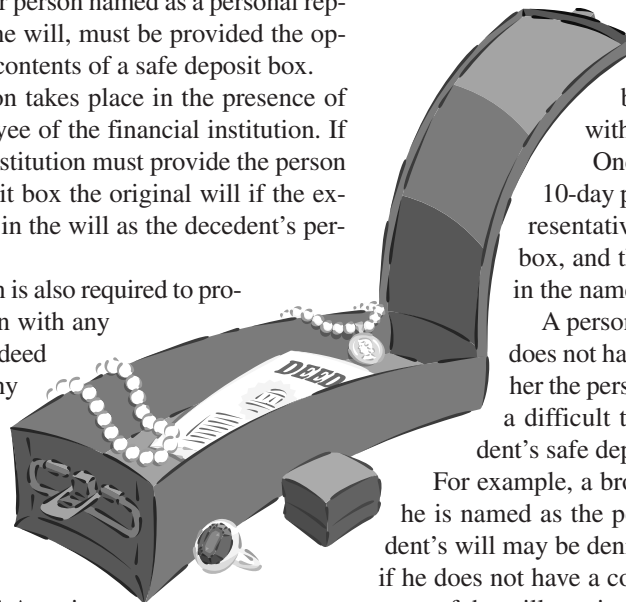
Once a waiver has been received or the 10-day period has elapsed, the personal representative may remove the contents of the box, and the box may be closed or be placed in the name of the personal representative.

A person other than a spouse or parent who does not have a copy of the will naming him or her the personal representative is going to have a difficult time obtaining access to the decedent's safe deposit box.

For example, a brother of the decedent who suspects he is named as the personal representative in the decedent's will may be denied access by a financial institution if he does not have a court order allowing him access or a copy of the will naming him as a personal representative.

However, he may be allowed an examination with proper identification and an affidavit indicating that he is the decedent's brother. This situation emphasizes the necessity of providing personal representatives with a copy of the will naming them as the personal representative.

If you have questions regarding wills, administration of estates, or any other legal issues please call Legal Assistance Office at 751-4287 to set up an appointment.



Soldiers don't get free pass on leave misuse

By **MASTER SGT. HENRY RAMOS**
Assistant Inspector General

With Memorial Day approaching, Pfc. Renrut planned to take leave the week of Memorial Day but wanted to save some of his leave days by putting in a three-day pass in conjunction with his leave.

The week after Memorial Day was his sister's graduation, so Renrut planned to sign back out on leave the entire week after the Memorial Day weekend.

According to AR 600-8-10, Leaves and Passes, Soldiers cannot take leave Monday to Friday, then take a weekend pass, and begin another leave period the following Monday.

In this scenario, the Soldier must work the Friday before or the Monday after the pass period.

Commanders should inform Soldiers about the consequences for not being at the permanent duty station or within the local residence area while starting or ending leave or pass periods as indicated in their DA Form 31.

Additionally, commanders should ensure procedures are in place to implement new pass policies in accordance with the DODI 1327.6 and DA guidance.

Soldiers must be at their duty station or within the local residence area when starting or ending leave periods that coincide with federal training holidays as prescribed

by reference A, B and C.

TYPES OF PASSES

A regular pass is a short non-chargeable authorized absence from post or duty during normal off duty hours.

There are three-day and a four-day special passes. Leave may be granted in conjunction with a three-day special pass.

However, both leave and pass must begin and terminate on post, the duty location or where the Soldier normally commutes daily to duty.

A three-day pass may not be combined with an existing regular pass, another special pass or leave without including a duty day in-between the period of absence. A

four-day special pass must include at least two consecutive non-duty days.

A special pass may not be combined with an existing regular pass, another pass, or leave without including a duty day in between the periods of absence. This includes weekend periods.

As of June 24, 2008, and until Dec. 31, 2010, service members may carry over up to 75 days of accrued leave, beginning with the most recent fiscal year changeover. For example, a service member with 75 days of leave on Sept. 30, 2008 did not lose that leave on Oct. 1, 2008.

Recent changes to the DODI 1327.6 leave and liberty procedures can be found in paragraph 6.11.2.3.

All-female team swings onto post

By DELAWESE FULTON
Leader Staff

Among numerous military accolades and achievements, Fort Jackson might have another first.

Mercy Rule, an all-female intramural softball team, has arrived on post. The team, made up of military spouses, started its season this spring.

“We’re here to have fun,” said Beth Smith, first baseman.

Mercy Rule is the brainchild of Shannon Grover. Grover, wife of Drill Sergeant Mark Grover and a history major at the University of South Carolina, called her friend Amy Scarpulla one February morning and asked, “Do you want to play softball?”

Grover, who played softball as a middle and high schooler in her home state of Washington, decided to use the sport as an outlet, an activity, which would be a respite from the demands of military life and school.

Scarpulla, also the wife of a drill sergeant, agreed.

“They don’t have many options for the spouses and family members on Fort Jackson,” Scarpulla said.

“So, we created our own,” Grover added.

Grover and Scarpulla called Fort Jackson’s recreation department, listed their team and began recruiting other military wives to join.

Grover signed on as the team’s pitcher. Scarpulla decided to play shortstop and be the “team trash-talker.”

Their husbands supported their effort. Sgt. 1st Class Wayne Scarpulla and his unit, the 2nd Battalion, 39th Infantry Regiment, provided uniforms. Grover’s husband signed up as team parent.



Photo by DELAWESE FULTON

Members of Mercy Rule pose for a team photo after a game. Sixteen military spouses, many of them drill sergeants wives, comprise the team, which is Fort Jackson’s first all-female intramural softball team.

Mercy Rule’s roster quickly filled. “We had a lot of requests to add people on but we couldn’t,” Shannon Grover said. Their 16-member team was off to practice.

This season, the team is set to play about 20 games against other mostly all-male teams on post and from other nearby military installations.

Grover said their male competitors have also been supportive of their team.

“For the most part, the guys have been really good to us,” Grover said. “They understand that we’re women trying to have fun. They cheer us.”

Cindi Keene, of the FMWR Community Recreation Division, said in her seven years as sports coordinator, this is the first time she has registered a women’s intramural softball team.

“I think it’s great that they’re out here playing against predominantly all-male teams,” Keene said.

Grover added that though the team’s name references a softball/baseball rule in which a team loses so badly to another that “mercy” is called and the game is ended early, she never wants that to be the case for her and her players.

“My personal goal is not to use the mercy rule at all,” she said.

Although the team lost its first three games, Mercy Rule remains hopeful that it will win some games by the time the season ends in late August.

“We put forth the effort. We’re actually playing, and we’re pretty good,” Amy Scarpulla said.

Delawese.Fulton@us.army.mil

Sports shorts

❑ Fort Jackson’s annual Strongman Competition scheduled for today, 6 p.m. at the Hilton Field Softball Complex.

❑ Letters of intent for summer basketball are due May 22. The summer basketball league is for active duty personnel only. For more information, call 751-3096.

❑ The softball season is under way with games taking place at Hilton Field Softball Complex at 6 p.m., 7 p.m. and 8 p.m. nightly. For more information, call 751-3096.

❑ A Father’s Day basketball tournament for players 30 and older is scheduled for June 5-7 at Vanguard Gym. The field is limited to eight teams.

Teams must sign up by May 29. The entry fee is \$150 per team. For more information, call 751-4526/4384

❑ The Army 10-miler qualifier is scheduled for July 18 at 5:30 a.m. Location is TBA. Call 751-3096 for information.

❑ Pitch, hit and run competition for 7-12 year olds is scheduled for May 30, 10 a.m. at the Youth Sports Complex. Participants must show a birth certificate. Call 751-5040 for information.

❑ Fort Jackson Youth Sports is looking for children 6-18 years old to start a Double Dutch league.

Adults willing to coach are also needed. There is no cost. Call 751-5040 for information.

❑ The Rock Climbing Club will have its first meeting, June 22, 6 p.m., at the Youth Services Center. The season is June through August.

Registration is \$40 for the first child and \$36 for each additional child. The club is for 7 to 18 year olds. Call 751-5040 for information.

LEADER DEADLINES

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